

Baxter Springs News

CHAS. L. SMITH, Editor & Owner.

WAXTER SPRINGS - KANSAS

The reckless chauffeur and his machine are soon parted.

Humanity gets its money's worth out of the bathing suit.

Lots of people never thought of hurrying until they got a fast motor car.

So far no one has been accused of mortgaging the home to buy an aeroplane.

Wireless telegraphy begins to rival chloroform in the alleviation of distress.

There is no truth in the rumor that the backbone of winter has been mended.

Those Zeppelin airships have to be handled more delicately than a pet rhinoceros.

Air sickness is an affliction that has come with the flying machine. "Stand from under."

That celebrated expert, the katydid, was not so far off in its long-distance weather prediction.

There is to be an eclipse of the moon in November. And undoubtedly others, not of the moon.

People have such a habit of crowding around a broken-down automobile as if they were glad of it.

An Ohio judge has ruled that a pretzel is not a dangerous weapon. Now for a judicial opinion concerning wieners.

The summer is about over. We notice that the society column says "has returned" oftener than "has sailed" nowadays.

A Washington girl strangled a mad dog with her bare hands. What couldn't she have done with the gloves on!

"Heavy hogs are slow and weak," says a market report, but common experience proves that sometimes they don't act that way.

King George wants all the British army officers to wear mustaches, which is one way of getting soldiers with stiff upper lips.

A New York man committed suicide for the purpose of giving his wife a chance to get a better husband. She will not have to look far.

The Kaiser has a new palace, making 51 in all. Private millionaires, even in America, have their work cut out for them if they mean to travel at that pace.

A man has been found starving himself because he feared the end of the world was at hand. There must be such a thing as the rash bravery of cowardice.

A New York woman declares that an income is like a reputation—it must be lived up to. That is true, but it makes some difference as to how one lives up to it.

New Jersey has a college graduate 100 years old. Maybe he can tell us who originated that modern jest of leading the college president's cow to the top floor of the dormitory.

A London newspaper announces that Swift's idea of wit was all wrong. Next thing London will probably inform us that Shakespeare didn't know anything about writing plays.

A man who has become involved in trouble because he married three women in three months sets up the claim that he is insane. Some married men are mean enough to believe him.

A lawyer in Chicago has figured that the Fourth of July really comes on August 4. If he wants to do something really worth while, let him figure that moving day comes on February 30.

Firemen in New Hampshire prevented a suicide by playing the hose on a man determined to cut his throat. There is nothing like cold water to bring emotionalism of any kind down to a common-sense basis.

While people over here have been shivering in the heat, France has been suffering from thunder storms, gales and unseasonably cold weather. In the village of Bonneville, near St. Etienne, the local postman, who goes his rounds in a blouse and carries an umbrella, was caught by the gale the other day and blown nearly half a mile. He came safely to earth again, but he lost all his letters. That ought to cure him of the umbrella habit.

It is said that Edison has invented an automatic talking machine to accompany the moving pictures. The only thing remaining is for the wizard to invent an automatic silencing machine for the campaign orator and a few others.

Out in California some of the people have begun fasting for six weeks, hoping that at the end of that time they will be heaven. Even if they fail to go to heaven they will probably have saved enough to make earth seem pretty heavenly.

SOME GOOD SALADS

POSSIBLY HERE ARE A FEW YOU MAY NOT KNOW.

Calves' Brains, Properly Prepared, Make a Delicious Sunday Night Dish—Celery Roots Another Very Appetizing Salad.

Calves' brains, plainly boiled in salt and water, chilled on the ice, cut in small dice and served on a bed of tender lettuce with mayonnaise make a delicious dish for Sunday night.

When there is no olive oil in the house a hot salad may be made of lettuce and bacon. Fry the bacon—which must be cut in cubes—a delicate brown, then throw it and the grease all over the lettuce, adding salt and pepper as needed. Use hot vinegar.

Canned Pimientos—Spanish peppers—make a salad as good to eat as it is beautiful to look at. Open the can, let it stand fifteen minutes for odors to escape, and then turn contents into a colander, running the cold water over the rosy vegetables. Give them a good wash, then drain carefully, and chill them thoroughly on the ice. Serve on lettuce dressed with mayonnaise or French dressing. If the family is small a whole can of the pimientos will not be needed, but what is left over from the salad will keep in the ice box. The washing is necessary to get off the slime of the canning juices.

Celery roots make a very satisfactory salad for those who want to feel that they are really eating something. They must be peeled and boiled till tender, thoroughly chilled and dressed with French dressing—olive oil, vinegar, salt and pepper. Of course the lettuce bed makes a pretty finish and adds a note of taste to the salad.

When the larder runs very dry, if there are only some stale white bread in the house and a bit of garlic or onion, still another salad is possible. Toast the bread until it is hard all through, cut it up in small squares and rub one with a cut of onion or clove of garlic. Dress with French dressing an hour before eating so the oil can soak in and if there are two pieces of pimento left from the can already mentioned add them to the dish. This may seem a little messy to look at, but it will taste all right.

A sweet orange salad which turns out a very ornamental dish is made by cutting the fruit in round, thin slices and using rum and sugar for the dressing. A banana salad, which should be cut in lengthwise slices and put on lettuce, would be dressed with sugar and lemon juice. Capers add a very excellent note to potato salad, and give it a pretty look, while any species of lettuce may have the usual taste immensely varied with a raw egg dressing. Beat the egg, white and yolk together, till it runs freely; add three teaspoonfuls of sugar, salt and pepper to taste, and a tablespoonful or more of elder vinegar. Then let the dish stand until the edges of the lettuce begin to wilt. A French gourmand always "fades" his salad in this way before eating it.

Chiffonier Useful in Sewing Room.

In the sewing room try having a chiffonier. A very cheap pine one will do. Use the top drawer for needles, buttons, pins, tape, bones, etc. The thousand and one things that are always being lost. Use one drawer for mending, one for new materials, and one for remnants which have been left when you were sewing. All of this is little or no trouble to arrange, and think of the time saved when you know just where to look for any given article. Don't go over the same ground several times each day. When you are working in one part of the house get all of the work in that part done and then go to another room and finish there. Have broom, dust cloth, dust pans and an entire cleaning outfit upstairs and you will be saved the constant drain of running up and down stairs. All of these things are simple, but they save many steps during the year and much time that might be used to better advantage resting or reading or in any healthful recreation.

Yum-Yum Peaches.

Pare and cut in half one dozen peaches and cook ten minutes in boiling syrup made of one and a half cups of sugar and one pint of water: on taking the sauce pan from the fire turn into it half a box of gelatine which has been soaking for two hours in about one-half a cup of water; set the sauce pan in a basin of cold water, stirring occasionally until the mixture becomes cool, but before it turns to jelly; pour the mixture into a mold and put on ice for two or three hours; when ready to serve, turn out on a flat dish, cover the jelly with whipped cream; arrange maraschino cherries on top; pare and arrange around the edge of the dish.

To Clean Knives.

Knife cleaning may be made easier by dipping a piece of raw potato in the scouring material, rubbing with that instead of a cloth. The juice of the potato is not only a good cleaner in itself, but it keeps the scouring paste moist.

Pound Cake.

One cup butter, one and one-half cups flour, creamed together. Add one cup sugar and four eggs well beaten, one-half teaspoon baking powder. Bake in moderate oven.

Profits of Monte Carlo, the World's Gaming Center



MONTÉ CARLO

THE Societe de Monaco is one of those interesting propositions, just so far hidden by circumstances from the public gaze that, though nine men out of ten in the other places would probably be aware of its existence, only one out of ten would in all probability have anything better than the haziest idea of its financial position and prospects, or could even give approximately the current quotation of its shares. Yet its prosperity depends to the very largest extent upon its British customers, who go to "break the bank at Monte Carlo"—so much so that, on a good French authority, the Banque Henry Dupont of Paris, the outbreak of the war in the Transvaal brought down its dividend in 1899-1900 from 275 francs to 250 francs a share; its continuance the following year reduced it still further to 210 francs; its after consequences kept it down to 225 francs during 1901-02 and 1902-03, and it was only in 1903-04 that it definitely regained its lost "way," and the dividend amounted to 295 francs.

In the middle of the last century the principality of Monaco had an area of 155 square kilometers, when, to avert the consequences of an insurrectionary movement, the prince of Monaco sold all his territory to France, save one and one-half square kilometers, on which Monaco and Monte Carlo now stand, for 4,000,000 francs. The bulk of the revenue of the principality having disappeared with its taxpayers, the prince adopted the plan then in force in several German states of raising revenue by means of a gambling casino, and the Societe de Monaco was formed for this purpose in 1863.

Its success was but moderate, until it secured the services of M. Blanc, a past master in the art of conducting this particular form of business. By 1871 it had gained such a footing that the prince was able to abolish all taxation in the principality. The prohibition in Germany of roulette and trente-et-quarante on January 1, 1873, transferred the German gambling clientele to Monte Carlo and confirmed the success of the Monaco company.

This success, though subject to certain fluctuations, on the whole has been very great ever since. The company was capitalized from the commencement at 30,000,000 francs, in 60,000 shares of 500 francs each, and in this share capital has never been increased since, but in 1899 power was obtained from the shareholders to split the shares into fifths—100 francs normal—which has been done to a certain extent, and the "fifths" are quoted as well as the full share in the Marche en banque of the Paris bourse. A debenture issue of 43,000,000 francs in 300 franc bonds bearing four per cent. interest net was authorized in 1898, the redemption to be effected by annual drawings terminating in 1948. In 1898 80,000 of these bonds were sold to the public at 240—a very considerable discount, and in 1905 53,000 more were marketed at 265. They are now quoted en banque in the neighborhood of 305, and there are still 26,700 unissued.

The company is based, of course, on a concession granted by the prince of Monaco to conduct the gaming casino on certain terms of a period of 50 years, from 1863 to 1913; but in 1898 this term was prolonged by the prince to 1948, on the company's pledging itself to pay in cash to the government of the principality 10,000,000 francs immediately and 15,000,000 francs in 1913; to execute certain public works valued at 5,000,000 francs, construct a new theater for 2,000,000 francs and pay 25,000 francs for every performance to go toward the chief actors' salaries.

A second prolongation till April 1, 1958, took place last November, the additional burdens assumed by the company being to pay the prince of Monaco three per cent. of the gross annual receipts till 1948, and from 1948 to 1958 as much as eight per cent.; to construct a road from Monaco to Nice, at a cost of 600,000 francs; to supply gas throughout the principality at 18 centimes the cubic meter, and to appropriate 100,000 francs annually to an employees' pension guarantee fund.

From this it will be seen that the new charges which will press upon the company for the next few years and will have to be allowed for in making any calculations as to likelihood

of improvement in revenue, are chiefly: (1) A lump sum of 15,000,000 francs, to be paid to the government in 1913; (2) three per cent. of gross takings to be paid each to the prince; and (3) 150,000 francs a year for the next four years to be spent on road making—a mere fleabite that will scarcely have any effect at all.

The burdens imposed on the company in 1898 and since seem at first sight considerable; but a review of its history shows that they have hitherto been borne with ease. For the year 1871-2—the accounts are made up to March 31 of each year and its dividend coupons detached in May and November—it paid a dividend of no more than 32.50 francs or 6 1/2 per cent. on its nominal capital; the company had just made a fair start after the Franco-Prussian war; but by 1881-2 the dividend had been increased to 64 francs or 12.8 per cent., and ten years later still for 1891-2, it stood at 233 francs, or 47 per cent. on the original share.

Dividends Steadily Advancing. Let us now see how it bore the heavy burdens imposed upon it in 1898, which we can only do reliably by observing the advance or setback of the dividend.

Turning now to the dividend record for 1898-9—the year when the company pledged itself to pay 10,000,000 francs down and spend 1,700,000 francs on public works, including a theater—the dividend stood at 275 francs, or 55 per cent. on the original capital.

It was further handicapped, as noticed above, by the South African war, and the dividend next year dropped to 220 francs or 44 per cent., and the year after that to 210 francs, or 42 per cent., a low-water mark it has since never touched. During the next two years it stood at 225 francs, or 45 per cent., and then began to rise rapidly, the figures being as follows: 1903-4, 295 francs, or 59 per cent.; 1904-5, 320 francs, or 64 per cent.; 1905-6, 350 francs, or 70 per cent.—high-water mark; 1906-7, two years, 290 francs, 58 per cent.; 1908-9, 300 francs, 60 per cent.; 1909-10, 315 francs, 63 per cent.

There is little doubt that the company could, had it chosen, have distributed much larger dividends than those noted of late years. "But," says the Banque Henry Dupont in a recent circular referring to this matter, "the directors have made a point of entirely amortizing all the expenditures on improvements and gradually accumulating the sum of 15,000,000 francs to be paid to the prince in 1913. The series of public works prescribed is now almost completed.

Profit in the Peace of Europe. "On the other hand the prolongation of the concession made last November more than compensates for the new burdens to be assumed since then. The ten years added to the concession reduces the annual sinking fund appropriation by almost 160,000,000 francs, while the new annual charges only mean about 1,480,000 francs."

That this last calculation is pretty accurate appears from that fact that three per cent. on 28,492,000 francs, the gross profits for 1909-10, works out at 1,154,760 francs; the road to Nice takes 150,000 francs annually for four years; the annual loss on gas is a trifle of 75,000 francs and the pension fund takes 100,000 francs, in all 1,479,760 francs.

Deducting this from the amount by which the sinking fund appropriation is reduced—namely 1,600,000 francs—a positive annual gain to the company of about 120,000 francs is apparent. According to this calculation the company has made an excellent bargain with the prince and the only rock ahead in the distant future is the increase of his percentage from three to eight in 1948.

All that the company has to do is to await with equanimity the increased amount that will surely be gambled away during a period of increased trade prosperity. It has no serious competitor to fear; Corfu and Egypt are too far distant to interfere with it; Spa and Ostend disappeared in 1903, and the Italian parliament lately rejected the proposal to legalize gambling stations along the Italian Riviera. If the peace of Europe is maintained, the company's profits must increase, for the gambling instinct of mankind is not to be eradicated, and Monte Carlo is the world's gaming center.

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The girl who practices on the piano in a cold room in the morning can have warmth from an oil heater while she plays, and then turn it off.

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